

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 187

Introduced by Assembly Member Gomez

May 17, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 187—Relative to American Stroke Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 187, as introduced, Gomez. American Stroke Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of May 2016 as American Stroke Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term
2 disability and the fifth leading cause of death in the United States,
3 killing about 130,000 people nationwide and over 13,500 California
4 citizens each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Stroke prevalence is projected to increase by 20.5
6 percent between 2016 and 2030, inclusive, and the direct medical
7 costs for treating stroke are expected to almost triple during the
8 same period from \$71.6 billion to \$184.1 billion; and

9 WHEREAS, Nearly 80 million Americans have high blood
10 pressure, which is a major controllable risk factor for stroke,
11 including 44 percent of African American adults—among the
12 highest prevalence of any population in the world; and

13 WHEREAS, Fifty-eight percent of Americans do not know if
14 they are at risk for stroke; and

15 WHEREAS, One in three Americans cannot recall any stroke
16 warning signs or symptoms; and

1 WHEREAS, The F.A.S.T. warning signs and symptoms of
2 stroke include face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, and
3 time to call 9-1-1; and

4 WHEREAS, Beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning signs
5 and symptoms include sudden numbness or weakness of the face,
6 arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body, sudden confusion,
7 trouble speaking or understanding, sudden trouble seeing in one
8 or both eyes, sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance
9 or coordination, and sudden severe headache with no known cause;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, On the American Stroke Month Day of Action,
12 May 1, 2016, throughout the month of May and year-round, the
13 American Stroke Association's "Together to End Stroke" initiative
14 encourages Americans to learn their personal stroke risk, memorize
15 and share the stroke warning signs, and call 9-1-1 at the first sign
16 of a stroke; and

17 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed
18 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes,
19 but much more research is needed; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
21 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature declares the month of
22 May 2016 to be American Stroke Month in California and urges
23 all Californians to familiarize themselves with the risk factors
24 associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms,
25 and on first sign of a stroke dial 9-1-1 immediately in order to
26 begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population;
27 and be it further

28 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
29 of this resolution to the author and to the Secretary of the Senate
30 for appropriate distribution.